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Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-72 (Cancelled).

73. (new) A digital data processor for use in a control system that includes a control apparatus that has one or more control/sensing devices, the digital data processor executing a program received by it over an internet protocol (IP) network, the program configuring the digital data processor to receive, via the IP network, information associated with the control apparatus, where that information does not comprise, nor is it received within, a web page.

74. (new) The digital data processor of claim 73, where the program configures the digital data processor to receive the information from the IP network in a text form.

75. (new) The digital data processor of claim 73, where the program configures the digital data processor to exchange messages over the IP network in text form for purposes of at least one of monitoring and controlling the control apparatus.

76. (new) The digital data processor of claim 73, where the program configures the digital data processor to generate requests for information associated with the control apparatus.

77. (new) The digital data processor of claim 76, where the program configures the digital data processor to generate the requests for transmission on the IP network in a text form.

78. (new) The digital data processor of claim 77, where the program configures the digital data processor to generate the requests and to receive the information in order to monitor the control apparatus.

79. (new) The digital data processor of claim 77, where program configures the digital data processor to generate the requests and to receive the information in order to control the control apparatus.

80. (new) The digital data processor of claim 73, where the information comprises a process variable associated with the control apparatus.

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81. (new) The digital data processor of claim 73, where the program configures the digital data processor to transmit, on the IP network, a value for a process variable associated with the control apparatus.

82. (new) The digital data processor of claim 73, where the program configures the digital data processor to transmit, on the IP network, data for setting a value in the control apparatus.

83. (new) The digital data processor of claim 73, where the program configures the digital data processor to generate, on the IP network, a request to any of access and set a value associated with the control apparatus.

84. (new) The digital data processor of claim 73, where the program configures the digital data processor to generate, on the IP network, a request to any of get and set a value of a process variable associated with the control apparatus.

85. (new) The digital data processor of claim 73, wherein the digital data processor receives the program from a server that is coupled to the IP network.

86. (new) A control system comprising

A. a control apparatus that has one or more control/sensing devices, the control apparatus coupled for communications with an internet protocol (IP) network,

B. a digital data processor executing a program received by it over the IP network, the program configuring the digital data processor to receive, via the IP network, information associated with the control apparatus, where that information does not comprise, nor is it received within, a web page.

87. (new) The control system of claim 86, where the program configures the digital data processor to receive the information from the IP network in a text form.

88. (new) The control system of claim 86, where the program configures the digital data processor to exchange messages over the IP network in text form for purposes of at least one of monitoring and controlling the control apparatus.

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89. (new) The control system of claim 86, where the program configures the digital data processor to generate requests for information associated with the control apparatus.

90. (new) The control system of claim 89, where the program configures the digital data processor to generate the requests for transmission on the IP network in a text form.

91. (new) The control system of claim 90, where the program configures the digital data processor to generate the requests and to receive the information in order to monitor the control apparatus.

92. (new) The control system of claim 90, where the program configures the digital data processor to generate the requests and to receive the information in order to control the control apparatus.

93. (new) The control system of claim 86, where the information comprises a variable associated with the control apparatus.

94. (new) The control system of claim 86, comprising a server that is coupled to the IP network and that downloads the program to the digital data processor.

95. (new) The control system of claim 94, wherein the server is associated with the control apparatus and wherein the interface executes at least in part on the server.

96. (new) A control system, comprising

A.   a digital data processor in communication coupling with a control apparatus via an internet protocol (IP) network, the control apparatus comprising one or more control/sensing devices, and

B.   the digital data processor executing a program received by it over the IP network from a server associated with the control apparatus, the program configuring the digital data processor to generate and transfer for response on the IP network at least one request for a value associated with the control apparatus.

97. (new) The control system of claim 96, comprising an interface that is coupled to the control apparatus and to the digital data processor, the interface responding to a said request for a

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value associated with the control apparatus by transmitting that value to the digital data processor.

98. (new) The control system of claim 97, wherein the digital data processor and the interface are coupled by way of the server.

99. (new) The control system of claim 98, wherein the interface executes at least in part on the server.

100. (new) The control system of claim 96, wherein the program configures the digital data processor as a process controller for monitoring and/or controlling the control apparatus.

101. (new) The control system of claim 96, wherein the requests are transmitted over the IP network in a text form.

102. (new) The control system of claim 96, wherein program configures the digital data processor to receive, via the IP network, values generated by the control apparatus in response to the requests.

103. (new) The control system of claim 102, wherein the requests and the values are transmitted over the IP network in a text form.

104. (new) The control system of claim 96, wherein the program comprises a JAVA applet.

105. (new) The control system of claim 96, wherein the program comprises an intermediate language program.

106. (new) The control system of claim 96, wherein the program comprises a byte code program.

107. (new) The control system of claim 96, wherein the program comprises a downloaded program that executes in a virtual machine environment.

108. (new) The control system of claim 96, wherein the program comprises a program that executes in a web browser.

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109. (new) A control system, comprising

A. a digital data processor in communication coupling with a control apparatus via an internet protocol (IP) network, the control apparatus comprising one or more control/sensing devices to monitor and/or control a process, and

B. the digital data processor executing a program received by it over the IP network from a server associated with the control apparatus, the program configuring the digital data processor to receive, via the IP network, information associated with the control apparatus, where that information does not comprise, nor is it received within, a web page.

110. (new) The control system of claim 109, where the program configures the digital data processor to receive the information from the IP network in a text form.

111. (new) The control system of claim 109, comprising an interface that is coupled to the control apparatus and to the digital data processor, the interface generating said information in response to a request generated by the program.

112. (new) The control system of claim 111, where the interface generates the information in a text form.

113. (new) The control system of claim 111, wherein the interface executes at least in part on the server.

114. (new) The control system of claim 109, wherein the program configures the digital data processor to generate at least one request for information associated with control apparatus.

115. (new) The control system of claim 114, wherein the program configures the digital data processor as a process controller for monitoring and/or controlling the control apparatus.

116. (new) The control system of claim 114, wherein the program configures the digital data processor to send the requests over the IP network in a text form.

117. (new) The control system of claim 109, wherein the program comprises a JAVA applet.

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118. (new) The control system of claim 109, wherein the program comprises an intermediate language program.

119. (new) The control system of claim 109, wherein the program comprises a byte code program.

120. (new) The control system of claim 109, wherein the program comprises a downloaded program that executes in a virtual machine environment.

121. (new) The control system of claim 109, wherein the program comprises a program that executes in a web browser.

122. (new) The control system of claim 109, wherein the program configures the digital data processor to generate, as at least one of the requests, a request for a process variable associated with the control apparatus.

123. (new) A control system, comprising

A.   a control apparatus comprising one or more control/sensing devices to monitor and/or control a process,

B.   a digital data processor executing a program within a web browser, the program

        (i)   configuring the digital data processor for monitoring the control apparatus,

        (ii)   generating a request for information associated with the control apparatus,

C.   an interface in communication with the control apparatus and with the digital data processor, the interface responding to the request for transmitting information associated with the control apparatus, where that information does not comprise, nor is it received within, a web page.

124. (new) The control system of claim 123, where the program configures the interface to transmit the information in a text form.

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125. (new) The control system of claim 123, wherein the digital data processor and the interface are coupled via an internet protocol (IP) network.

126. (new) The control system of claim 125, wherein the program causes the digital data processor to transmit the request over the IP network in a text form.

127. (new) The control system of claim 125, comprising a server that is coupled to the IP network and that downloads the program to the digital data processor.

128. (new) The control system of claim 127, wherein the server is associated with the control apparatus and wherein the interface executes at least in part on the server.

129. (new) The control system of claim 123, wherein the program configures the digital data processor as a process controller for monitoring and/or controlling the control apparatus.

130. (new) A control system, comprising

A.   a control apparatus comprising one or more control/sensing devices,

B.   a server digital data processor that is coupled to the control apparatus,

C.   a client digital data processor in communication coupling with the control apparatus and with the server digital data processor,

D.   the client digital data processor executing a program that configures the client digital data processor for monitoring the control apparatus, the program comprising any of (i) a JAVA applet, (ii) an intermediate language program, (iii) a byte code program, (iv) a downloaded program that executes in a virtual machine environment, (v) a program that executes in a web browser,

E.   at least one of the control apparatus and the server digital data processor (i) having an object that stores a data value associated with the control apparatus, and (ii) responding to a request for that object by transmitting to the client digital data processor the data value, where the data value is transmitted other than as or within a web page.

131. (new) The control system of claim 130, where the data value is transmitted in a text form.

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132. (new) The control system of claim 130, wherein the transmitted data value represents a process variable associated with the control apparatus.

133. (new) The control system of claim 130, wherein at least one of the control apparatus and the server digital data processor providing services for any of (i) creating a named such object, (ii) destroying such an object, (iii) accessing information in such an object, (iv) updating information in such an object, (v) determining, from an object name, a physical address associated with such an object, and (vi) providing notification of changes in at least selected information stored in such an object.

134. (new) The control system of claim 130, wherein at least one of the control apparatus and the server digital data processor provide services for any of getting and setting a value of such object.

135. (new) The control system of claim 130, wherein the client digital data processor and the server digital data processor are coupled via an internet protocol (IP) network.

136. (new) The control system of claims 130, wherein the program configures the client digital data processor to request such services.

137. (new) The control system of claim 130, where the program configures the client digital data processor as a process controller.

138. (new) A portable wireless device for use in a control system that includes one or more control/sensing devices, the portable wireless device executing a program received by it over an internet protocol (IP) network from a server associated with the control apparatus, the program configuring the portable wireless device to receive, via the IP network, information associated with the control apparatus, where that information does not comprise, nor is it received within, a web page.

139. (new) The portable wireless device of claim 138, where program configures the portable wireless device to receive the information from the IP network in a text form.

140. (new) The portable wireless device of claim 138 where the program configures the portable wireless device to exchange messages over the IP network for purposes of at least one of getting and setting a value associated with one or more of the control/sensing devices.

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141. (new) The portable wireless device of claim 140 where the program configures the portable wireless device to exchange messages over a wireless network for purposes of at least one of getting and setting a value associated with one or more of the control/sensing devices.

142. (new) The portable wireless device of claim 140 where the program configures the portable wireless device to exchange text messages over the IP network for purposes of said at least one of getting and setting a value associated with one or more of the control/sensing devices.

143. (new) The portable wireless device of claim 138 where the program configures the portable wireless device to request services provided by a server digital data processor in order to at least one of getting and setting a value associated with one or more of the control/sensing devices.

144. (new) The portable wireless device of claim 143 where the program configures the portable wireless device to request services for at least one of (i) creating a named object that stores information regarding one or more of the control/sensing devices, (ii) destroying such an object, (iii) accessing information in such an object, (iv) updating information in such an object, (v) determining, from an object name, a physical address associated with such an object, and (vi) providing notification of changes in at least selected information stored in such an object.

145. (new) The portable wireless device of claim 138 where the program configures the portable wireless device to generate commands for effecting a transfer of information regarding a status of one or more of the control/sensing devices.

146. (new) The portable wireless device of claim 138 where the program configures the portable wireless device to respond to information received regarding the status of one or more of the control/sensing devices for generating a display representative thereof.

147. (new) The portable wireless device of claim 138, where the portable wireless device is a personal digital assistant.

148. (new) The portable wireless device of claim 138 adapted for use in a control system in which the process control apparatus includes said one or more control/sensing devices.

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149. (new) The portable wireless device of claim 138 adapted for use in a control system in which the process control apparatus includes said one or more control/sensing devices to monitor and/or control a process.

150. (new) A method of operating a control system of the type having a control apparatus comprising one or more control/sensing devices, the method comprising the steps of

A. transferring a program to a digital data processor via an internet protocol (IP) network,

B. executing the program on the digital data processor, the program configuring the digital data processor to generate at least one request for a process variable associated with the control apparatus,

C. transferring those requests to the IP network for response with information from the control apparatus.

151. (new) The method of claim 150, comprising responding, with an interface that is coupled to the control apparatus and to the digital data processor, to a said request for a process variable by transmitting a value of that variable the digital data processor.

152. (new) The method of claim 151, comprising transferring response values between the digital data processor and the interface by way of the IP network.

153. (new) The method of claim 152, comprising transferring the requests and response values over the IP network in a text form.

154. (new) The method of claim 150, wherein the program configures the digital data processor as a process controller for monitoring and/or controlling the control apparatus.

155. (new) The method of claim 150, wherein the program comprises a JAVA applet.

156. (new) The method of claim 150, wherein the program comprises an intermediate language program.

157. (new) The method of claim 150, wherein the program comprises a byte code program.

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158. (new) The method of claim 150, wherein the program comprises a downloaded program that executes in a virtual machine environment.

159. (new) The method of claim 150, wherein the program comprises a program that executes in a web browser.

160. (new) A method of operating a control system of the type having a control apparatus comprising one or more control/sensing devices, the method comprising the steps of

A.   transferring a program from a server to a digital data processor via an internet protocol (IP) network,

B.   executing the program on the digital data processor, the program configuring the digital data processor to receive, via the IP network, information associated with the control apparatus, where that information does not comprise, nor is it received by the digital data processor within, a web page.

161. (new) The method of claim 160, comprising receiving the information from the IP network in a text form.

162. (new) The method of claim 160, comprising generating with an interface that is coupled to the control apparatus and to the digital data processor said information associated with the control apparatus, where that information is generated in response to a request generated by the program.

163. (new) The method of claim 162, comprising generating and transmitting the information on the IP network in a text form.

164. (new) The method of claim 162, comprising executing the interface at least in part on the server.

165. (new) The method of claim 165, wherein the program configures the digital data processor to send the requests over the IP network in a text form.

166. (new) The method of claim 160, wherein the program comprises a JAVA applet.

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167. (new) The method of claim 160, wherein the program comprises an intermediate language program.

168. (new) The method of claim 160, wherein the program comprises a byte code program.

169. (new) The method of claim 160, wherein the program comprises a downloaded program that executes in a virtual machine environment.

170. (new) The method of claim 160, wherein the program comprises a program that executes in a web browser.

171. (new) The method of claim 160, wherein the program configures the digital data processor to generate, as at least one of the requests, a request for a process variable associated with the control apparatus.

172. (new) A method of operating a control system of the type having a control apparatus comprising one or more control/sensing devices, the method comprising the steps of

A.   executing a program within a web browser of a digital data processor, the program

     (i) configuring the digital data processor for monitoringthe control apparatus, and

     (ii) generating a request for information associated with the control apparatus,

B.   with an interface that is in communication with the control apparatus and with the digital data processor, responding to the request for transmitting information associated with the control apparatus, where that information does not comprise, nor is it received with, a web page.

173. (new) The method of claim 172, comprising transmitting the information in a text form.

174. (new) The method of claim 172, comprising communicating between the digital data processor and the interface via an internet protocol (IP) network.

175. (new) The method of claim 174, wherein the program causes the digital data processor to transmit the request over the IP network in a text form.

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176. (new) The method of claim 174, comprising downloading the program to the digital data
processor via the IP network.

177. (new) The method of claim 172 wherein the program configures the digital data processor as
a process controller for monitoring and/or controlling the control apparatus.